

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: ) Art Unit:  
 )  
 CHRISTENSEN, et al. ) Examiner:  
 )  
 Serial No.: 10/583,993 ) Washington, D.C.  
 )  
 IA Filed: June 22, 2006 ) January 21, 2009  
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 For: IDENTIFICATION OF ENCODED ) Docket No.: CHRISTENSEN=10A  
 BEADS )  
 ) Conf. No.: 1714

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building, Mail Stop Missing Parts  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, and prior to calculation of the filing fee, kindly amend as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.